

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace Claims 1, 14, and 15 with the following amended claims:

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1. (Amended) A process for cutting a material into pieces having a predetermined target length, comprising the steps of:

feeding a continuous web of the material from a feed roll to a cut-off module;

measuring tension in the web;

using the cut-off module to cut a piece of the material from the continuous web;

measuring an actual length of the piece of material;

comparing the actual length of the piece of material to the target length; and

adjusting the tension in the web prior to the web encountering the feed roll in response to any difference between the actual length and the target length.

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14. (Amended) The process of Claim 1 wherein the tension-adjusting step includes the step of modulating the web tension such that the web tension is kept to a minimum.

15. (Amended) A process for cutting a material into pieces having a predetermined target length, comprising the steps of:

feeding a continuous web of the material from a feed roll to a cut-off module;

measuring tension in the web prior to the web encountering the feed roll;

using the cut-off module to cut a piece of the material from the continuous web;

measuring an actual length of the piece of material;

comparing the actual length of the piece of material to the target length; and